



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 05 February 2007

Current
Nationwide
Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF
TERRORIST ATTACKS

[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)

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Daily Highlights

- CBS News reports an airport worker at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago has been arrested for smuggling large sums of money and exporting a banned item onto overseas-bound flights, by using his airport privileges. (See item [7](#))
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has issued Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation, guidelines that provide advice to states, businesses, families, and local communities on steps to try to buy time until enough vaccine can be available for the whole population. (See item [23](#))
- Computer World reports New York City has activated the first segment of a massive high-speed wireless data network that will be used by public safety workers as they respond to potential terrorist attacks and other emergencies. (See item [27](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report *Fast Jump*

Production Industries: [Energy](#); [Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials](#); [Defense Industrial Base](#)

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *February 02, Reuters* — **United Nations climate panel says warming is man-made.** The world's top climate scientists said on Friday, February 2, global warming was man-made, spurring calls for urgent government action to prevent severe and irreversible damage from

rising temperatures. The United Nations panel, which groups 2,500 scientists from more than 130 nations, predicted more droughts, heat waves, rains and a slow gain in sea levels that could last for more than 1,000 years. The scientists said it was "very likely" — or more than 90 percent probable — that human activities led by burning fossil fuels explained most of the warming in the past 50 years. The Kyoto Protocol is the main plan for capping emissions of greenhouse gases until 2012 but it has been severely weakened since the United States, the top source of greenhouse gases, pulled out in 2001. Emissions by many backers of Kyoto are far over target.

Report: <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/02/AR2007020200192.html>

2. *February 02, Financial Times (UK)* — **Russian President Putin considers creation of gas OPEC.** President Vladimir Putin said on Thursday, February 1, Russia was interested in the idea of a gas OPEC (Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries) to co-ordinate supply activities and ensure energy security — but not as a price-fixing organization. Kremlin officials have previously dismissed suggestions Russia could form part of an international gas exporters' alliance. Despite Putin's insistence that it would not be a cartel, his apparent openness to some sort of co-ordination with other suppliers may stoke European concerns about reliance on Russian energy. The Financial Times reported last November that a confidential study by NATO economics experts had warned that Russia might be seeking to build a gas cartel including Algeria, Qatar, Libya, central Asian republics and perhaps Iran. "A gas OPEC is an interesting idea. We will think about it," Putin told journalists. "We are not going to set up a cartel. But it would be correct to co-ordinate our activities with an eye to the solution of the main goal of unconditionally and securely supplying the main consumers of energy resources." Source: <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/f4e756a4-b261-11db-a79f-0000779e2340.html>

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Chemical Industry and Hazardous Materials Sector

Nothing to report.

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

3. *February 01, Federal Computer Week* — **DoD budget growing in size, complexity, experts say.** The Department of Defense's (DoD) appeal for funding will be threefold when it releases its fiscal year 2008 budget request Monday, February 5. In addition to its regular annual budget request, DoD will include requests for operations in Iraq and Afghanistan for fiscal 2008 and an additional \$100 billion in supplemental war funding for the remainder of fiscal 2007. The total could be more than \$650 billion, experts say. Base funding for defense activities in fiscal 2008 is projected to be about \$485 billion, not counting the costs of Iraq and Afghanistan, said Steven Kosiak, director of budget studies at the Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments. The current funding levels are near historic highs, even without the war costs, he said. In the 2007 Defense Authorization bill, Congress directed that all war funding for fiscal

2008 be included in this week's request, seeking an end to the large supplemental requests.

Source: <http://www.fcw.com/article97532-02-01-07-Web>

4. *February 01, Government Computer News* — **DoD issues electronic-warfare doctrine.** The Federation of American Scientists has posted a new publication issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff covering joint-forces doctrine for electronic warfare. The report, "Joint Publication 3-13.1, Electronic Warfare," released January 25, establishes the rules for electronic-warfare planning, preparation, execution and assessment in support of joint operations across U.S. military services, and the basis for involvement in multinational operations. As the electromagnetic (EM) spectrum gets more crowded with broadcasts from devices of every kind, from sensors to video feeds on unmanned aerial vehicles, computers to radios to wireless devices, all in support of network-centric operations, the risks to military forces from EM disruption grow significantly. This publication lays out the scope of electronic warfare and addresses the organizational responsibilities for protecting spectrum use and disrupting enemy forces' spectrum use.
Report: <http://www.fas.org/irp/doddir/dod/jp3-13-1.pdf>
Source: http://www.gcn.com/online/vol1_no1/43034-1.html

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Banking and Finance Sector

5. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Macau bank says HSBC helped screen money.** HSBC, one of the world's biggest banks, helped screen large deposits of cash from North Korean customers for a Macau bank accused by the U.S. of helping Pyongyang distribute counterfeit money, a lawyer for the Macau bank has told American investigators. The Macau lender, Banco Delta Asia, said it was a "small, family-owned institution" that didn't have the technology to check big batches of U.S. currency for fake bills, according to a letter by the bank's attorney available Friday, February 2, on the Department of Treasury's Website. "Such deposits were sent to HSBC New York for analysis before being finally credited to the depositor's account," according to the October 18 letter. HSBC spokesperson Gareth Hewett in Hong Kong declined to comment on the specifics of the case. Cash-strapped North Korea has become extremely skilled at counterfeiting money. Experts have said Pyongyang's latest creations, called "supernotes," are near-perfect forgeries, virtually indistinguishable from real \$100 bills. This week, a U.S. Treasury envoy Daniel Glaser said his agency's suspicions of illegal financial activity were confirmed by two days of talks with Pyongyang officials that ended Wednesday, January 31.
Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/02/02/ap3388989.html>

6. *February 02, New York Sun* — **New York Police Commissioner outlines dangers of counterfeiting goods.** The New York Police Department last year increased enforcement against counterfeiters in New York, closing down 75 establishments, making 600 felony arrests, giving out 6,000 summonses, and seizing \$18 million worth of fake goods, New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly said. Speaking at a summit on the problem of counterfeiting, he emphasized the connection between terrorism and the black market of counterfeit goods, as well as the hidden violent nature of the crime. In two recent cases in Spain and Michigan, he said, groups have used the "low-risk, high-profit" crime to finance an attack on the Spanish

commuter trains and to fund Hezbollah. A deputy assistant attorney general at the Department of Justice, Sigal Mandelker, said the sale of counterfeit American products is estimated to be a \$250 billion market.

Source: <http://www.nysun.com/article/47938>

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Transportation and Border Security Sector

7. *February 03, CBS News* — **Airport worker arrested for smuggling.** An airport worker at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago has been arrested for smuggling. Riad Skaff, 67, was charged Sunday, January 28, with smuggling large sums of money and exporting a banned item onto overseas-bound flights, by using his airport privileges. Skaff, a naturalized U.S. citizen from Lebanon, worked for Sunline Services Inc., a sub-contractor for Air France. The owner of the company, Ingrid Perrino, said that Skaff worked as a customer service agent since 1999. As part of his job, Skaff had a Security Identification Display Area (SIDA) badge, which allowed him unlimited access to all areas of Terminal 5 at O'Hare airport including the jet way and tarmac. According to a criminal complaint, an undercover agent with the U.S. Immigration, Customs and Enforcement agency received a tip in August of 2005 that Skaff could smuggle thousands of dollars onto an international flight for a fee. Federal law requires all passengers who travel abroad to declare currency exceeding \$10,000. After receiving the tip about Skaff, investigators then launched an undercover sting operation in which they allegedly used Skaff's services three times. According to investigators, in October 2005 Skaff accepted \$1,500 to smuggle \$25,000 in U.S. cash.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/blogs/2007/02/03/primarysource/entry2_429121.shtml

8. *February 03, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* — **Security breach at St. Louis airport causes delays.** Lambert Field officials cleared the A concourse Friday night, February 2, and unloaded passengers from five planes to be rescreened after a security worker spotted what looked like a gun passing through an X-ray machine. A sixth plane that took off at the time was diverted to Detroit so passengers aboard that plane could be rescreened later in the evening. At about 6:30 p.m. CST, a Transportation Security Administration (TSA) screener saw what was believed to be a double-barreled derringer handgun on an X-ray monitor, officials said. About 300 people in the concourse or on the five planes still parked at their gates were brought out to be screened again. The new screenings and a search of the planes did not turn up the object. A TSA official said the agency was investigating how sure the screener was that the item was a gun and why the man was not stopped at the checkpoint.

Source: <http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/stlouiscitycounty/story/B7451E9377B78EA386257277001486C7?OpenDocument>

9. *February 02, Associated Press* — **Washington Metro forms special robbery unit.** Metro has formed a special unit to capture criminals, following an increase in robberies throughout the transit system. According to Metro crime statistics, the number of robberies rose six percent last year. To address the increase, Metro Transit Police set up the robbery unit in early December. Officials say robberies also tend to go up during the holiday season because people carry more cash and packages. Metro says that in less than two months, the special unit has arrested 21 robbery suspects, compared with six robbery arrests in the same period the previous year.

Source: http://www.wusa9.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=55528

10. *February 02, Washington Post* — FAA seeks money for new air-traffic control system.

Federal aviation officials expect on Monday, February 5, to begin introducing a proposal to finance a new air-traffic control system — relying on satellites — that they say will be needed to keep pace with increasing air travel over the next two decades. Without a new system, officials say, passengers would face delays that would dwarf last year's snarls. However, a debate is unfolding over how to finance the next-generation network, which could cost \$69 billion to \$76 billion, according to the Congressional Research Service. The FAA and other government agencies want the system completed by 2025. The FAA would use its trust fund, which accumulates aviation-related taxes, to pay for the new system. The fund's balance has dropped to \$1.8 billion, the lowest in a decade. Officials cite several reasons for their current financial shortfall, but attribute it mostly to the growth of low-cost carriers. Those airlines charge less for flights, reducing tax revenue. Officials also note that airlines are using more small jets, adding to the workload of controllers. The new system, parts of which are being tested, would rely on satellites and Global Positioning System devices, which can locate an aircraft within a few feet. That would make it easier for controllers to handle more aircraft safely and more efficiently, officials said.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/02/02/AR2007020201635.html>

11. *February 02, NBC30 (CT)* — Connecticut DOT workers sickened by powder found near highway.

Four employees of the Connecticut Department of Transportation (DOT) were sickened by a suspicious powder they encountered near Interstate 91 Friday afternoon, February 2. A state DOT spokesperson said the workers were clearing brush when they found a five-gallon container off the road near exit 17 in Meriden. A puff of yellowish powder came out when one of the workers kicked the container to see what it contained. The workers said the powder irritated their eyes, noses and throats. I-91 was not closed, but state police and environmental workers were on the scene for the hours to check and move the container.

Source: <http://www.nbc30.com/news/10915143/detail.html>

12. *February 01, Department of Transportation* — Secretary Peters advances plans to reduce congestion on the nation's busiest highways.

Ambitious, forward-leaning plans to reduce traffic tie-ups on several of the nation's busiest highways are one step closer to becoming a reality as a short list of interstate corridors under the Corridors of the Future program was announced on Thursday, February 1, by Department of Transportation Secretary Mary E. Peters. Peters said that the Department is using this national congestion relief effort "to fight back against the traffic that is choking our major roads." She said the Corridors of the Future effort is a progressive approach that includes transportation planning across state lines in ways that reduce congestion and preserve the efficient flow of goods and commerce across America. The Department is advancing 14 of 38 proposals located on eight major transportation corridors including: I-95 between Florida and Maine; I-15 in southern California and Nevada; I-80/94 and I-90 linking Illinois, Indiana, and Michigan; I-5 in California, Washington, and Oregon; I-70 from Missouri to Ohio; I-69 from Texas to Michigan; I-80 in Nevada and California; and I-10 from California to Florida. The Corridors of the Future program is one element of DOT's six-point National Strategy to Reduce Congestion on America's Transportation Network launched in May 2006.

Source: <http://www.dot.gov/affairs/dot1207.htm>

13. *February 01, USA TODAY* — **United CEO says mergers still viable.** US Airways' failed hostile bid for Delta Air Lines doesn't kill prospects for other airline mergers, United Airlines CEO Glenn Tilton said Thursday, February 1. Speaking one day after the US Airways–Delta deal fell apart, Tilton said the circumstances of a future deal between airlines "would be different if the two companies and the boards agreed." A strong supporter of airline consolidation, Tilton didn't address possible merger partners for his own airline, but argued a friendly merger proposal stands a much better chance of success, though politics and government policies are still potential barriers. He noted that U.S. airlines have lost \$35 billion and laid off more than 150,000 workers since the September 11 attacks, and have only recently started to become profitable. Consolidation would produce stronger airlines that could sustain profitability, Tilton argues. In Europe, Air France merged with Dutch airline KLM in 2004 to become the world's largest airline in terms of revenue. "Our international competitors are merging across borders, expanding, growing more profitable, investing in new aircraft," Tilton said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-02-01-tilton-usa_t_x.htm

14. *February 01, Associated Press* — **Four Pennsylvania bridges reopen after bomb threat.** Four Beaver County, PA, bridges were closed overnight after a bomb threat but all reopened by late Thursday morning, February 1, after crews found nothing suspicious on them. The bridges, two each over the Ohio and Beaver rivers, were closed shortly after midnight when someone made a hang-up call to the county 911 center, police said. Police traced the call to a pay phone, where they found a note saying there was a bomb on one of the bridges. All four spans, about 25 miles northwest of Pittsburgh, were closed as a precaution, county emergency officials said. No one has been charged with making the threat.

Source: http://kdka.com/pennsylvaniawire/PA---BridgeThreat_d_n_Opa---/resources_news_html

15. *January 31, USA TODAY* — **International trusted traveler program sought.** Believing it would help stem the U.S.'s diminishing appeal to travelers from abroad, Discover America Partnership, an offshoot of the trade group Travel Industry Association of America, has asked Congress to launch a special trusted traveler program for international visitors. Since 9/11, international visits to the U.S. have fallen by 17 percent. The decline cost about \$43 billion in visitor spending in 2005 alone. Under the trusted traveler proposal, regular visitors from abroad could submit extensive personal and biometric information to the U.S. government. If approved by the government, foreign travelers could count on predictable airport clearance procedures when they arrive in the U.S. The tourism industry says heightened scrutiny of foreign visitors in the last five years has led to unpredictable and inconsistent treatment of foreigners at U.S. airports, and has played a major role in diminishing visits to the U.S. The tourism industry proposal also calls for automatically enrolling approved travelers in the U.S. registered traveler program to make flying around the USA easier.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/travel/flights/2007-01-31-tourism-us_at_x.htm

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report.

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Agriculture Sector

16. *February 02, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service* — **Plans announced to expand identification system cooperative agreements to nonprofit organizations.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Friday, February 2, announced a request for proposals (RFP) from nonprofit livestock and poultry industry organizations that wish to enter into cooperative agreements with USDA to advance the development of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS). These cooperative agreements will support the efforts of such organizations to promote NAIS and, specifically, increase participation in premises registration. “We have met our goal of having twenty-five percent of the Nation’s premises by the end of January, but there’s obviously a lot more work to be done,” said Bruce Knight, undersecretary of USDA’s marketing and regulatory programs. “Producer organizations are the key to securing the level of producer participation we need to make the premises registration component of the system fully functional for everyone. Making sure we have what amounts to an emergency contact list is the backbone of an emergency response system; we want this system to be there for producers when and if an animal health emergency arises.”
NAIS information: <http://www.usda.gov/nais>
Source: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/content/2007/02/NAISRFP.s.html>

17. *February 01, Agricultural Research Service* — **Suppressing psyllids could curb citrus disease.** To help citrus growers manage the crippling disease called citrus greening, two Agricultural Research Service (ARS) units in Fort Pierce, FL, are investigating a range of strategies. One involves developing controls for the Asian citrus psyllid (*Diaphorina citri* Kuwayama), which is a major carrier of the disease. The tiny brown psyllid was first spotted in Florida in 1998. Discovery of citrus greening — also known as Huanglongbing (HLB) disease — followed in August 2005. The characteristic yellow shoots, mottled leaves, and degeneration of vein phloem—part of trees’ vascular system—are caused by the *Candidatus Liberibacter asiaticus* bacterium that is spread by psyllids as they feed. The ARS researchers believe that an integrated HLB management program incorporating cultural, chemical and biological control strategies will have the best chance of success. Program components will include the removal of infected trees and special replant strategies, along with active psyllid control. To develop an integrated program, scientists will pursue an array of approaches to maximizing biological control of the psyllid. Another approach is trying to create citrus trees that are partially deciduous during some periods of the year. Since psyllids need leaves to feed on and reproduce, eliminating leaves at a certain time of year would eliminate the psyllids as well.
Source: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/pr/2007/070201.htm>

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Food Sector

18. *February 02, Associated Press* — **South Korea, U.S. to discuss beef imports.** South Korea

and the U.S. will hold talks next week to discuss Seoul's rejection of American beef shipments for containing banned bone fragments, the two governments said Friday, February 2. The two-day meeting is to be held in Seoul beginning Wednesday, February 7, South Korea's Agriculture and Forestry Ministry said in a press release. The U.S. Embassy in Seoul confirmed the plans. The meeting, described as a "technical consultation," was requested by U.S. officials and comes as the two sides are at odds over the bone fragment issue. South Korea fears bone fragments could harbor mad cow disease. South Korea allowed the resumption of imports late last year on a limited basis — boneless meat only from cattle younger than 30 months — on grounds that some material inside bones could be dangerous to consume and that younger animals are safe from mad cow disease. But South Korean quarantine authorities returned all three shipments to the U.S. for containing tiny bone fragments. South Korea barred U.S. beef in December 2003 after the first reported U.S. case of mad cow disease.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/business/4521179.html>

19. *January 31, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* — **Tapenade recalled.** Effective immediately, Whole Foods Market is voluntarily recalling 6,000 jars of a 32,000-jar lot of its 365 Everyday Value Kalamata Olive Tapenade because the product may contain glass fragments, which may cause injury if ingested. The recalled product was distributed nationwide to Whole Foods Market stores. The decision for the recall came after the Company received two reports in Texas of glass being found in the product.

Source: http://www.fda.gov/oc/po/firmrecalls/wholefoods01_07.html

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Water Sector

20. *February 01, Charlotte Observer (NC)* — **Alarm's failure went unnoticed until spill.** A pump station alarm that Charlotte-Mecklenburg, NC, Utilities Department employees are supposed to check twice daily was out of commission for four days, leading to the county's largest sewage spill in nearly two years. More than 650,000 gallons of sewage contaminated a cove leading to Lake Wylie, triggering warnings against fishing or prolonged contact that were still in effect Wednesday, January 31. The contamination does not affect drinking water, county water quality chief Rusty Rozelle said. The phone line to the alarm at the Neal Branch Creek sewer pump station in southwest Mecklenburg was knocked out by a tree-trimming contractor clearing power lines for Duke Energy Thursday, January 25, utilities department spokesperson Vic Simpson said. But no one at the department knew the alarm was out until crews found sewage had overflowed from two manholes Monday, January 29, during a routine inspection of the station. The pump's electrical malfunction was repaired within minutes, but by then, the sewage had spilled for up to two days and polluted Withers Cove.

Source: http://www.charlotte.com/mld/charlotte/news/16593620.htm?source=rss&channel=charlotte_news

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Public Health Sector

21. *February 02, Reuters* — **Bird flu can infect people via upper airway.** Leading scientists in Hong Kong have found that the H5N1 bird flu virus can infect cells in the upper airway of humans and need not penetrate deep in the lungs to cause infection. A study by scientists based in the U.S. in 2006 suggested that H5N1 could not infect people easily because it had to first lodge itself deep inside the lungs, where it binds more easily to certain receptors called the alpha 2–3. But scientists from the University of Hong Kong found that the virus could infect the nasopharynx, an area behind the nose and above the soft palate, and the throat. "On the earlier hypothesis, the virus has to go deep into the lungs to infect anybody but our research suggests that is not the case. The virus can get a foothold in the upper respiratory tract, it doesn't have to get deep down into the lungs," microbiology professor Malik Peiris told Reuters on Friday, February 2. Using discarded human tissues, Malik found both upper and lower human respiratory tracts could be infected by the virus.

Source: <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/HKG214279.htm>

22. *February 01, Reuters* — **Experts check into rash of child flu deaths.** Nine children have died of flu this season in Alabama, an unusually high number that has some experts worried, a pediatrician said on Thursday, February 1. Richard Whitley of the University of Alabama at Birmingham said he had sent samples from the children to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for analysis. They were all affected with the regular seasonal flu, Whitley said in an interview, but were unusually ill with it. "These kids are presenting with an ARDS-like syndrome," he said. Acute respiratory distress syndrome usually only occurs with severe infections, and is not normally a symptom of influenza. Normal seasonal influenza does kill children every year, even previously healthy children. Whitley said his hospital started filling up with cases, mostly children, in December. "Our hospital has been at 115 percent occupancy," Whitley told reporters. "We are not seeing influenza in our adult populations."

Source: http://today.reuters.com/news/articlenews.aspx?type=healthNews&storyID=2007-02-01T231049Z_01_N01227372_RTRUKOC_0_US-FLU-CHILDREN.xml&WTmodLoc=Home-C5-healthNews-2

23. *February 01, USA TODAY* — **Government issues pandemic flu plans.** New preliminary guidelines, issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provide specific advice to states, businesses, families and local communities on steps to try to buy time until enough vaccine can be available for the whole population. A new Pandemic Severity Index that rates the expected damage of a flu pandemic in much the way hurricanes are rated, from category 1 to category 5, will help communities match their responses to the circumstances, says Martin Cetron, a CDC expert in pandemic flu. The guidelines offer the most specific recommendations to date on how communities can prepare for a pandemic that experts believe is inevitable. Among recommendations, based on the severity of the pandemic: Ask sick people to stay home seven to 10 days; ask their household members to stay home for about seven days; Dismiss students from schools and close child care programs for up to 12 weeks; Cancel or postpone all large public gatherings; and change workplace policies to allow for flex time or offsite working to limit interaction.

Community Strategy for Pandemic Influenza Mitigation:

http://www.pandemicflu.gov/plan/community/community_mitigation.pdf

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2007-02-01-flu_x.htm

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Government Sector

24. *February 02, Government Accountability Office* — **GAO-07-264: State Department: State Has Initiated a More Systematic Approach for Managing Its Aviation Fleet (Report).** The Department of State's (State) Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) owns 357 helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft (valued at over \$340 million) primarily to help carry out its counter-narcotics efforts, such as aerial eradication of drug crops in Colombia. INL relies on contractor support to help maintain and operate its aircraft. In 2004, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) analysis showed that INL lagged behind other agencies in implementing Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and General Services Administration (GSA) aviation fleet management principles. GAO was mandated to review INL's management and oversight of this fleet. GAO specifically examined (1) the extent INL has complied with OMB and GSA aviation fleet management guidance and (2) how INL has overseen its aviation support contracts. Since INL has undertaken initiatives to address the weaknesses GAO observed, GAO makes no recommendations. GAO will follow up to ensure that these initiatives are completed, as planned. In comments on this report, State highlighted reforms under way. State also indicated that INL conducted analyses to justify most aviation investments. GAO notes, however, that the documentation provided did not reflect the key analyses called for by OMB guidance.
Highlights – <http://www.gao.gov/highlights/d07264high.pdf>
Source: <http://www.gao.gov/cgi-bin/getrpt?GAO-07-264>

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Emergency Services Sector

25. *February 02, IDG News Service* — **Tokyo ward mistakenly e-mails citizens about earthquake.** A routine test of an earthquake information system in Tokyo mistakenly notified citizens Friday, February 2, about an earthquake that hadn't occurred. Subscribers to a cell phone e-mail service provided by Tokyo's Minato ward received messages that a "moderately strong earthquake" had been registered at the city hall. "Beware of aftershocks. Check that fire-prone areas are secure and remain calm," stated the e-mail, which said the quake had registered 4.0 on the Japan Meteorological Agency seismic intensity scale. "We were testing the system, and we mistakenly sent out an e-mail," said an official at the ward's disaster prevention office. Officials sent out a second e-mail a few minutes later notifying subscribers of the error.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9010121&intsrc=hm_list

26. *February 02, Washington Technology* — **GSA to allow states to use supply schedule for disaster recovery.** The General Services Administration (GSA) is taking steps that would enable state and local governments to order products and services from federal contracts in the event of major disasters or terrorist acts. "Opening our Federal Supply Schedule means unprecedented delivery speed and best value for state and local agencies directly helping Americans who need it most," GSA Administrator Lurita Doan said in a statement announcing

the initiative. For state and locals to use federal disaster relief and recovery contracts previously available only to federal agencies, purchases must be for recovery from a major disaster as declared by the president or an act of terrorism.

Source: http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/daily_news/30062-1.html?topic=homeland

27. *February 01, Computer World* — **New York activates first segment of public safety wireless network.** IT contractors Wednesday, January 31, activated the first portion of a massive high-speed wireless data network in New York City that will be used by public safety workers as they respond to potential terrorist attacks and other emergencies. The wireless network can also be used for routine police and fire investigations, and city officials said it will eventually be put to use for more mundane functions, including reading water meters and trying to smooth out traffic flows. The first section of the Citywide Mobile Wireless Network to be activated serves lower Manhattan, the densely built area south of Canal Street that includes the site of the destroyed World Trade Center towers, a spokesperson for New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg said. The team in charge of the project has demonstrated in lower Manhattan that whatever a police officer or firefighter can do on a desktop PC can be done via the new network on a laptop in a moving vehicle. That includes launching streaming video, accessing e-mail, finding a photo of a criminal suspect, and viewing building floor plans.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=9010063&intsrc=hm_list

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Information Technology and Telecommunications Sector

28. *February 02, IDG News Service* — **German police again the target of cybercrime.**

Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) is once again the target of criminal forces in the Internet. Spam e-mail allegedly sent by the police office is making the rounds in the German-speaking region of Europe. The e-mail contains an attachment with malware that has yet to be classified and is thus slipping by some antivirus programs, according to the BKA Website. The subject line of the e-mail reads "Ermittlungsverfahren," or investigation. Recipients are informed that they face charges and should open the attached document, fill it out and return to the police office. Once opened, the malicious code affects some undisclosed functions of the user's PC and sends itself to the addresses listed in the user's address book. Telephone lines at the BKA were largely blocked Thursday, February 1, as numerous recipients of the malicious spam called a telephone number listed in the e-mail that is the main number of the police's press office.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/02/02/HNgermanpolicecybercrime_1.html

29. *February 02, Information Week* — **Windows Vista may corrupt iPod music players, Apple says.** Apple Computer is warning customers who use the Windows version of its iTunes software to hold off upgrading to Windows Vista until it can release a patch to fix a number of serious compatibility issues, one of which could result in a corrupt iPod player. Apple, in a statement posted Thursday, February 1, on its Web support forum, says upgrading from Windows 2000 or Windows XP to Vista may result in the inability to play songs purchased and downloaded to the desktop iTunes player from its online iTunes store. Worse, however, is the

problem that iPod users could encounter if they try to eject their digital music player from a desktop port using the "Safely Remove Hardware" feature found on the Vista system tray. That, Apple warns ominously, "may corrupt your iPod."

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=N4N0XWXBHJZM2QSNDL0SKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=197002833>

30. *February 01, InfoWorld* — **Vista hole opens door to shout hacking.** The honeymoon ended early for Microsoft's Vista operating system, after word spread Wednesday, January 31, about a flaw that could allow remote attackers to take advantage of the new operating system's speech recognition feature. Microsoft researchers are investigating the reports of a vulnerability that could allow an attacker to use the speech recognition feature to run malicious programs on Vista systems using prerecorded verbal commands. The potential security hole was discovered after an online discussion prompted blogger George Ou to try out a speech-based hack. Ou reported on ZD Net on Tuesday that he was able to access the Vista Start menu and, conceivably, run programs using voice commands played over the system's speakers. The speech recognition flaw is novel and notable for being the first publicized hole in the new operating system since the public launch of Vista on Tuesday. The impact of the flaw, however, is expected to be small. Microsoft recommends that users who are concerned about having their computer shout-hacked disable the speaker or microphone, turn off the speech recognition feature, or shut down Windows Media Player if they encounter a file that tries to execute voice commands on their system.

Source: http://www.infoworld.com/article/07/02/01/HNvistaspeechbug_1.html

31. *February 01, Information Week* — **IE phishing bug for Windows XP appears early.** Microsoft released a non-security update for Internet Explorer 7 two weeks before the next patch day, and urged Windows XP and Windows Server 2003 users to download and install the fix if they notice the browser mysteriously slowing down while surfing. Earlier last week, the developer pushed several updates to Windows Vista users, the new operating system that launched to consumers on Tuesday, January 30, including one to fix performance problems with IE 7's anti-fraud filter. The update has also been posted for IE 7 on Windows XP and Server 2003. The XP and Server 2003 IE 7 anti-phishing filter fix will be included in the February 13 updates, but users can download the patch manually from the company's support site: <http://support.microsoft.com/default.aspx/kb/928089>

Source: <http://www.informationweek.com/showArticle.jhtml;jsessionid=N4N0XWXBHJZM2QSNDL0SKHSCJUNN2JVN?articleID=197002575>

Internet Alert Dashboard

Current Port Attacks	
Top 10 Target Ports	The top 10 Target Ports are temporarily unavailable. We apologize for the inconvenience. Source: http://isc.incidents.org/top10.html ; Internet Storm Center
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: www.us-cert.gov .	
Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/ .	

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Commercial Facilities/Real Estate, Monument & Icons Sector

32. *February 01, USA TODAY* — Fixing levees isn't easy or cheap. Communities responsible for maintaining levees publicly identified as substandard by the federal government are racing to fix problems caused by years of neglect. One obstacle might prove more formidable than the levees themselves: money. The Army Corps of Engineers identified 122 levees on Thursday, February 1, that it said posed an unacceptable risk of failing in a flood. Although a few of the levees protect major cities such as Albuquerque and Sacramento, many guard sparsely populated areas and have been overgrown with trees and brush that could weaken them. The corps has given the communities a year to make repairs. That deadline has left levee owners — primarily local governments for whom the corps built the levees — scrambling for the money to get the job done. For some, the challenge is significant. Maj. Gen. Don Riley, director of civil works for the corps, acknowledged that many communities face a challenge to find the money for repairs. And, some operators acknowledge that many of the problems stem from lax maintenance.

The full list can be seen at <http://news.usatoday.com>.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/2007-02-01-levees_x.htm

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General Sector

Nothing to report.

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